

## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides for methods of identifying subjects with a predisposition towards, or the existing condition of, type II diabetes. The methods involve examination of at  
5 least three human gene products – Fab1p, Vac14p and Fig4p – each of which play an important role in the insulin-response pathway. In addition, the invention provides methods for screening of potential therapeutic compounds, and methods for the treatment of type I and II diabetes.